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Briefs

Castro loved his missiles

PARIS (AP) — Fidel Castro spoke of "an incredible love" for the nuclear missiles that brought on America's Cuban missile crisis, and wanted to keep them even after the Soviets agreed to remove them, according to documents published Friday.

In a speech to the Central Committee of Cuba's Communist Party in 1968, six years after the missile crisis, Castro admitted to laughing with his advisers even as the possibility of nuclear war loomed, the documents published by the French daily Le Monde also showed.

Le Monde said Castro's account of the crisis just 90 miles from U.S. shores was provided to the newspaper by Vincent Touze, a French academic and expert on the missile crisis.

The missile crisis became public Oct. 22, 1962, when President Kennedy revealed to the American people that the Soviet Union had secretly deployed nuclear missiles in Cuba.